



78th ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2024		LOCATION
12:00 Noon	Registration Table Opens	Hallway
3:00 p.m.	CDI Regional Director's Board Meeting	Cardinal

MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2024		LOCATION
7:00 a.m.	Registration Opens	Hallway
8:45 a.m.	Registration Closes	Hallway
9:00 a.m.	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jeri Thornsberry</i>, President, Conservation Districts of Iowa • <i>Steve Hofmann</i>, Chair, State Soil Conservation and Water Quality Committee and retired Army Member <p>Pledge of Allegiance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dennis Carlson</i>, Member, State Soil Conservation and Water Quality Committee <p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mike Naig</i>, Iowa State Secretary of Agriculture • <i>Jon Hubbert</i>, IA State Conservationist-NRCS 	Prairie
9:20 a.m.	Commissioners' Annual Business Meeting	Prairie
12:30 p.m.	Luncheon and Awards Presentation	Garden
1:30 p.m.	<p>Resiliency: Intersection of Water Quality, Soil Health, and Changing Weather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Justin Glisan</i>, Iowa State Climatologist 	Garden
2:00 p.m.	<p>Ice Cream Social and Visit Exhibits</p> <p>Visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iowa Learning Farm's</i> new trailer in the parking lot with Conservation Station on the Edge, showcasing edge-of-field practices 	Garden
3:00 p.m.	<p>Conservation Potpourri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leveraging Partnerships to Drive Conservation Adoption – Iowa Soybean Association RCPP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Ben Porepp</i>, ISA Agronomist 	Garden

MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2024		LOCATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle and Working Lands RCPPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Colton Barnes</i>, Project Coordinator ○ <i>John Nitz</i>, Northwest Iowa Farmer • Five Year Plans – Highlighting Four SWCDs: Cedar, East Pottawatomie, Sioux, and Winneshiek <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moderators: <i>Alyssa Comer and Madison Conley</i>, Planning Coordinators (NRCS) • What’s on Commissioner’s Minds? Questions and Open Discussion Amongst Commissioners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moderator: <i>Joe Hayes</i>, CDI Communications Coordinator 	
4:30 p.m.	Social Hour and Visit Exhibits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Refreshments provided</i> 	Prairie
5:30 p.m.	Banquet and Awards Presentation Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 State Poster Contest Winners • Envirothon State Winner – Decorah Nerd Republic Award Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lillian Howe</i>, CDI Scholarship Recipient • <i>Jamie Beyer</i>, 2023 Spencer Award Recipient • Leopold Conservation Award Finalists Announcement Honoring Past Presidents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ramona Nitz</i>, CDI Immediate Past President Key Note Address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embracing Regenerative Agriculture: Proactive Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Mitchell Hora</i>, Founder / CEO at Continuum Ag Conservation and My World from a Gen Z Poet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Robin Hubbert</i>, University of Iowa Student Note <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silent Auction closes at the end of evening 	Prairie

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024		LOCATION
7:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet <i>Each district will gather at tables assigned by regions for open discussion with fellow commissioners</i>	Garden
7:45 a.m.	Visit Exhibits	Hallway
8:00 a.m.	Pledge of Allegiance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kami Willet</i>, Chair East Pottawatomie SWCD and retired Air Force member Announcements	Garden
8:30 a.m.	Partner Updates and Presentations: What's New Since Spring Regionals? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Matt Russell</i>, FSA • <i>Curt Goettsch</i>, FSA • <i>Jerah Sheets</i>, IDNR • <i>Jon Hubbert</i>, NRCS • <i>Susan Kozak</i>, IDALS • <i>Will Myers</i>, IDALS 	Garden
9:30 a.m.	Break and Visit Exhibits	Hallway
10:00 a.m.	Enriching Commissioner's Knowledge: Legal Primer – Understanding Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities: Open Meetings, Open Records, and Soil Loss Complaints <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eric Dirth</i>, Iowa Assistant Attorney General 	Garden
11:00 a.m.	Concurrent Workshop Sessions (Choose Track #1 or Track #2) <u>Track #1</u> (11:00 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.) Watershed Structures (PL 566) Open Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eric Dirth</i>, Iowa Assistant Attorney General • <i>Christian Osborn</i>, NRCS • <i>Mark McCurdy</i>, NRCS • <i>Jonathan Garton</i>, Iowa DNR <u>Track #2</u> Two 25-minute Breakout Sessions Session A (11:00 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.) A Future Look at Ethanol Industry and What it Means to Iowa Farmers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nathan Hohnstein</i>, Policy Director, Iowa Renewable Fuels Association Session B (11:30 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.)	Prairie North Prairie South

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024		LOCATION
	Understanding Needs of Urban Gardeners and Beginning Farmers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Shaffer Ridgeway</i>, District Commissioner • <i>Jenna Curran</i>, Conservation Assistant • <i>Jeri Thornsberry</i>, Chair, Black Hawk SWCD 	
12:00 noon	Luncheon and Awards Presentation	Garden
1:15 p.m.	Annual Conference Wrap-up / Safe Travels	Garden



Iowa Soil and Water Commissioners' 2024 Annual Conference theme "Sowing Tomorrow's Harvest: Charting the Future of Soil and Water Conservation in Iowa" was chosen to encourage soil and water commissioners to look ahead and envision the future of conservation efforts in Iowa. It suggests a proactive approach to conservation, where stakeholders work together to plant the seeds of innovation, sustainability, and resilience in the soil and water systems of Iowa. This theme underscores the importance of forward-thinking strategies and collaborative action to ensure a bountiful harvest of benefits for future generations.



CDI ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE
I	Call to Order and Welcome	Jeri Thornsberry, President
II	Present Preliminary Credentials Report	Mary Ellen Miller, Secretary
III	Confirm Quorum	Jeri Thornsberry, President
IV	Adopt Rules Governing Meeting	Jeri Thornsberry, President
V	Adopt Agenda	Jeri Thornsberry, President
VI	Appoint 2024 Minutes Approval Committee, Timer, and Tellers	Jeri Thornsberry, President
VII	Receive Report of 2023 Annual Business Meeting Minutes	Mary Ellen Miller, Secretary
VIII	Present President's Report	Jeri Thornsberry, President
IX	Present Vice President's Report	Don Elsbernd, Vice President
X	Present CDI Executive Director's Report	Dien Judge, Executive Director
XI	Present CDI Lobbyist's Report	Jim Obradovich, CDI Lobbyist
XII	Present Report of Annual Dues Paid	Jack Boyer, Treasurer
XIII	Present Updated Credentials Report	Mary Ellen Miller, Secretary
XIV	Present FY 2024 Financial Report and Approve FY2024 – 2025 CDI Annual Budget	Jack Boyer, Treasurer
XV	Present Nominations Committee Report	Ramona Nitz, Past-President, Nominations Committee Chair
XVI	Elect President and Vice President	Jeri Thornsberry, President
XVII	Present Resolutions Report	Jeri Thornsberry, President
XVIII	Discussion and Vote on Resolutions	Jeri Thornsberry, President
XIX	Vote to Archive Resolutions	Jeri Thornsberry, President
XX	Other Business	Jeri Thornsberry, President
XXI	Adjourn	Jeri Thornsberry, President